

If Pappas is going to give one party free airtime, then Pappas should give them all free air time: Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians, Green Party and whomever else. Either all of them or none of them. I have NO objection to the free airtime as long as it is OBJECTIVE and allows all sides to be heard. Otherwise, the Republican Party should be paying the same \$325,000 as Pappas is charging any of the other parties.

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.